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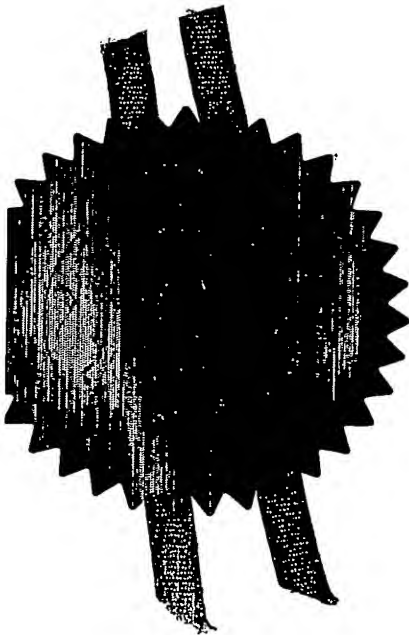
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1.	Your reference	GB Case	PF/3-22883/P1/MA 2233
2.	Patent application number (The Patent Office will fill in this part)		0310685.3
3.	Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)		Ciba Specialty Chemicals Holding Inc Klybeckstrasse 141 4057 Basel Switzerland 08468753001 Switzerland
	Patent ADP number (if you know it)		
	If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation		
4.	Title of invention		Heat Sensitive Recording Material
5.	Name of your agent (if you have one)		
	"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)		Ciba Specialty Chemicals Holding Inc Patents Department PO Box 38 Cleckheaton Road Low Moor Bradford West Yorkshire BD12 0JZ 08192080001
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6.	If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number	Country	Priority application number (if you know it)
			Date of filing (day/month/year)
7.	If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application	Number of earlier application	Date of filing (day/month/year)
8.	Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or c) any named applicant is a corporate body. (see note (d))	YES	

Patents Form 1/77

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Continuation sheets of this form -

Description 36 / CP

Claim(s) 5 /

Abstract 1 /

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Priority documents -

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Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (Patents Form 7/77) -

Request for preliminary examination and search (Patents Form 9/77) 1

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11.

I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application

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Date



09 May 2003

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

Jane Spinks

01274 417558

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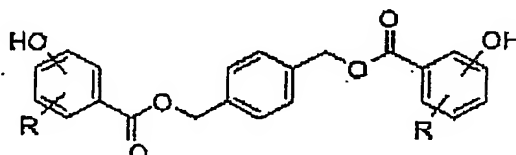
Heat Sensitive Recording Material

The present invention relates to heat sensitive recording materials. It more particularly relates to such recording material in the form of a supporting substrate, for example, a paper sheet, synthetic paper sheet or plastic resin film coated with colour-forming systems comprising a colourless or pale coloured electron donative compound (colour forming compound) and an organic electron acceptor (colour developer).

Heat sensitive recording has conventionally been used as a system for recording transferred information through the mediation of heat, by utilising a colour reaction between a colour forming compound and a colour developer.

The properties which are most desirable in a heat sensitive recording material, in addition to the effective development of colour, are thermal response, background whiteness and image stability, especially light fastness of the developed colour, heat and moisture fastness of the developed colour, oil fastness of the developed colour, plasticiser resistance of the developed colour and water fastness of the developed colour.

JP-A 61-109757 claims developing compounds of the formula

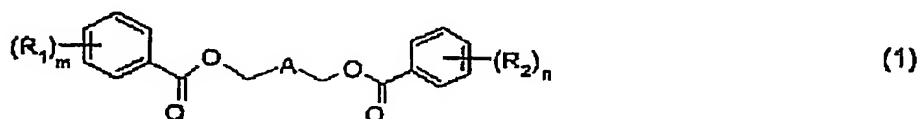


wherein R means hydrogen or hydroxy, as well as a thermosensitive recording material, characterized in containing colorless or pale color-developing dyestuffs, which develop color by means of electron accepting material and the abovementioned colour developing compound.

A need exists to improve the above properties and to improve the archival capabilities of such recording materials. It is an object of the present invention to provide heat sensitive recording materials with improved properties, especially to provide an increase in image stability whilst improving the background whiteness of the paper before imaging and the background whiteness of the undeveloped portion after imaging.

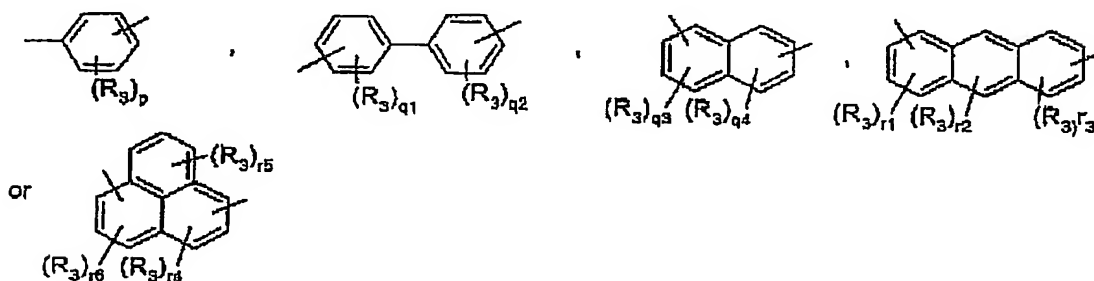
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Therefore, the present invention is directed to a colour developer of the formula (1)



wherein

- 5 A stands for a unsubstituted or substituted divalent aromatic radical, preferably for phenylene, biphenylene, naphthylene, or anthrylene, more preferably for



- 10 R_1 and R_2 are independent of each other and stand for -OH, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl, -COOR_{1a}, wherein R_{1a} stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, -C(O)R_{1a}, or -NR_{1a}R_{1b}, wherein R_{1b} , independently from R_{1a} , stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl,

- 15 R_3 stands for hydrogen, hydroxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{24} alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_6 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{24} alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenoxy or naphthyloxy, halomethyl, -COOR₄, wherein R_4 stands for hydrogen or C_1 - C_8 alkyl, -CONR₅R₆, wherein R_5 and R_6 , independently from each other stand for hydrogen or C_1 - C_8 alkyl, or -NO₂,

- 20 m stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, n stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5, p, q₁ and q₂, independently from each other stand for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, q₃, q₄, r₁, r₃ and r₅, independently from each other, stand for 0, 1, 2, or 3, r₂, r₄ and r₆, independently from each other, stand for 0, 1 or 2, with the proviso, that if A stands for para-phenylene, R_1 for hydroxy (m≠0), then R_2 is not hydroxy.

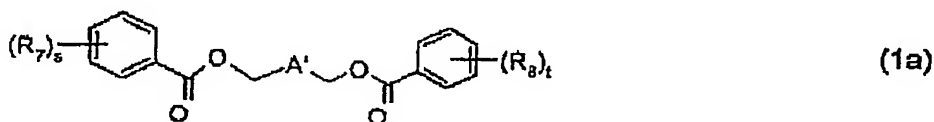
R_1 , R_2 and R_3 as phenyl or naphthyl or R_{1a} and R_{1b} as phenyl can be unsubstituted or substituted, preferably one to three times, by, for example, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy or halogen. Preferred substituents are C_1 - C_4 alkyl, especially methyl or ethyl, C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, especially methoxy or ethoxy, or halogen, especially chlorine. R_1 , R_2 and R_3 as naphthyl are preferably unsubstituted. R_1 and R_2 as phenyl are preferably substituted, especially by one of the above alkyl substituents, R_3 , R_{1a} and R_{1b} as phenyl preferably are unsubstituted.

R_1 , R_2 , R_{1a} and R_{1b} as C_1 - C_8 alkyl can be unsubstituted or substituted, one to three times, by, for example C_1 - C_8 alkoxy or halogen. Preferred substituents are C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, especially methoxy or ethoxy, or halogen, especially chlorine. R_1 , R_2 , R_{1a} and R_{1b} as C_1 - C_8 alkyl are preferably unsubstituted.

R_3 as C_1 - C_{24} alkyl can be unsubstituted or substituted, one to three times, by, for example C_1 - C_8 alkoxy or halogen. Preferred substituents are C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, especially methoxy or ethoxy, or halogen, especially chlorine.

Preferably, at least one of R_1 or R_2 is hydroxy.

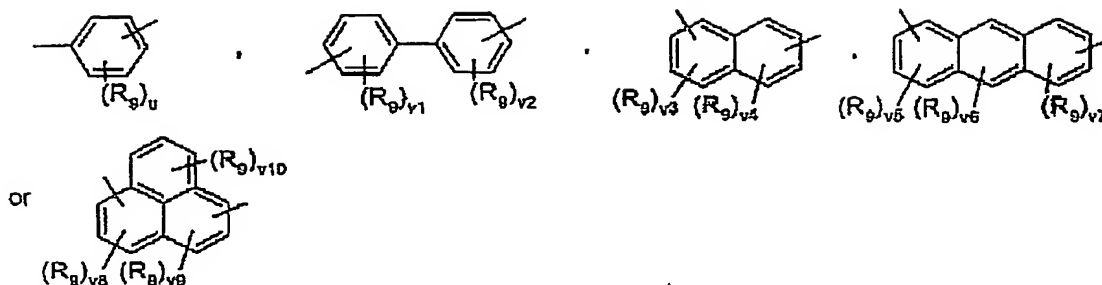
Another embodiment of the present invention relates to a mixture consisting of
 20 (a) a color developer (1a)



wherein

A' stands for a unsubstituted or substituted divalent aromatic radical, preferably for phenylene, biphenylene, naphthylene, or anthrylene, more preferably

for



R_7 and R_8 are independent of each other and stand for -OH, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl, $-COOR_{1a}$, wherein R_{1a} stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, $-C(O)R_{1a}$, or $-NR_{1a}R_{1b}$, wherein R_{1b} , independently from R_{1a} , stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl,

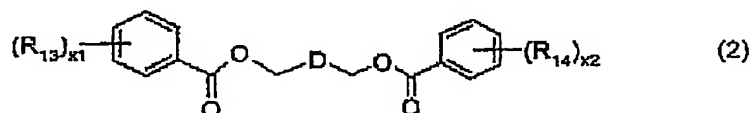
R_9 stands for hydrogen, hydroxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{24} alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_5 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{24} alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenoxy or naphthyloxy, halomethyl, $-COOR_{10}$, wherein R_{10} stands for hydrogen or C_1 - C_8 alkyl, $-CONR_{11}R_{12}$, wherein R_{11} and R_{12} , independently from each other stand for hydrogen or C_1 - C_8 alkyl, or $-NO_2$, s stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, t stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5, u stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4,

v1 and v2, independently from each other, stand for 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, v3, v4, v5, v7, and v10, independently from each other, stand for 0, 1, 2, or 3, v6, v8 and v9, independently from each other stand for 0, 1 or 2,

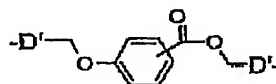
and

(b) a compound of formula (2)

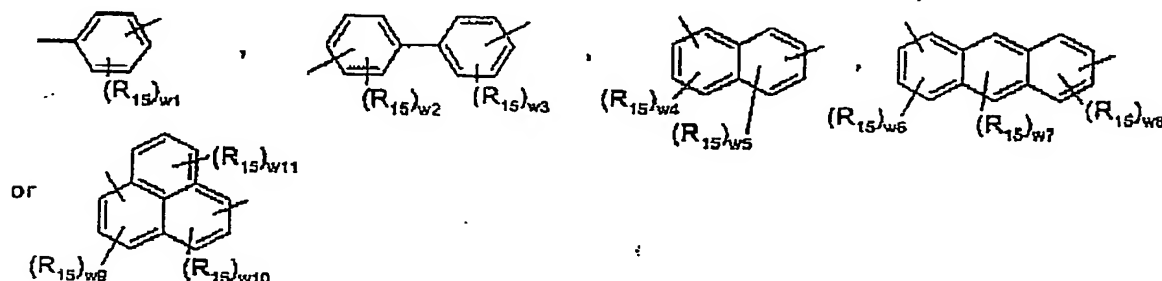
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wherein D stands for



wherein D' stands for a unsubstituted or substituted divalent aromatic radical, preferably for phenylene, biphenylene, naphthylene, or anthrylene, more preferably for



- 5 wherein R₁₃ stands for a substituent as defined for R₇, R₁₄ stands for a substituent as defined for R₈, R₁₅ stands for a substituent as defined for R₉,
w1 stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, w2 and w3, independently from each other, stand for 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, w4, w5, w6, w8 and w11, independently from each other, stand for 0, 1, 2, or 3, w7, w9 and w10, independently from each other stand for 0, 1 or 2,
- 10 and wherein the weight ratio of (1a) to (2) is chosen in the range from 99.9:0.1 to 0.1:99.9, preferably from 95:5 to 70:30.

- R₇, R₈, and R₉ as phenyl or naphthyl can be unsubstituted or substituted, preferably one to three times, by, for example, C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy or halogen. Preferred substituents are
- 15 C₁-C₄alkyl, especially methyl or ethyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, especially methoxy or ethoxy, or halogen, especially chlorine. R₇, R₈ and R₉ as naphthyl are preferably unsubstituted. R₇ and R₈ as phenyl are preferably substituted, especially by one of the above alkyl substituents, R₉ as phenyl preferably is unsubstituted.
- 20 R₇ and R₈ as C₁-C₈alkyl can be unsubstituted or substituted, preferably one to three times, by, for example C₁-C₈alkoxy or halogen. Preferred substituents are C₁-C₄alkoxy, especially methoxy or ethoxy, or halogen, especially chlorine. R₇ and R₈ as C₁-C₈alkyl are preferably unsubstituted.
- 25 R₉ as C₁-C₂₄alkyl can be unsubstituted or substituted, preferably one to three times, by, for example C₁-C₈alkoxy or halogen. Preferred substituents are C₁-C₄alkoxy, especially methoxy or ethoxy, or halogen, especially chlorine.

5 C_1 - C_{24} alkyl e.g. stands for methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-, i-, sec., tert. butyl, n-, i-, tert. pentyl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl, n-octyl, 2-ethyl-hexyl, n-nonyl, n-decyl, n-undecyl, n-dodecyl, n-tridecyl, n-tetradecyl, n-pentadecyl, n-hexadecyl, n-heptadecyl, n-octadecyl, n-nonadecyl, n-eicosyl, n-uneicosyl, n-doeicosyl, n-trieicosyl, n-tetraeicosyl, preferably for C_1 - C_8 alkyl such as defined below.

10 C_1 - C_8 alkyl e.g. stands for methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-, i-, sec., tert. butyl, n-, i-, tert. pentyl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl, n-octyl, 2-ethyl-hexyl, preferably for C_1 - C_8 alkyl such as methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-, i-, sec., tert. butyl, n-, i-, tert. pentyl, n-hexyl, particular preferred for C_1 - C_4 alkyl such as methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-, i-, sec., tert. butyl.

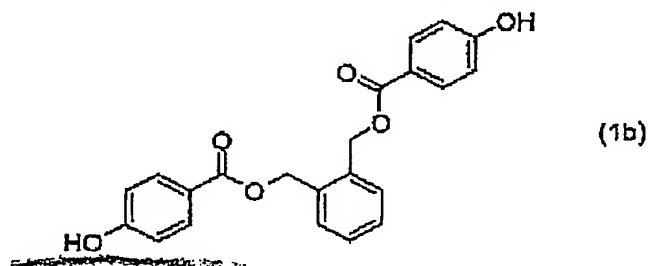
15 C_1 - C_{24} alkoxy e.g. stands for methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, n-butoxy, n-pentoxy, n-hexoxy, n-heptoxy, n-octoxy, 2-ethyl-hexoxy, n-nonoxo, n-decoxy, n-undecoxy, n-dodecoxy, n-tridecoxy, n-tetradecoxy, n-pentadecoxy, n-hexadecoxy, n-heptadecoxy, n-octadecoxy, n-nonadecoxy, n-eicosoxy, n-uneicosoxy, n-doeicosoxy, n-trieicosoxy, n-tetraeicosoxy, preferably for C_1 - C_8 alkoxy such as defined below.

20 C_1 - C_8 alkoxy e.g. stands for methoxy, ethoxy, n-, i-propoxy, n-butoxy, n-pentoxy, n-hexoxy, n-heptoxy, n-octoxy, preferably for C_1 - C_4 alkoxy such as methoxy, ethoxy, n-, i-propoxy, n-butoxy.

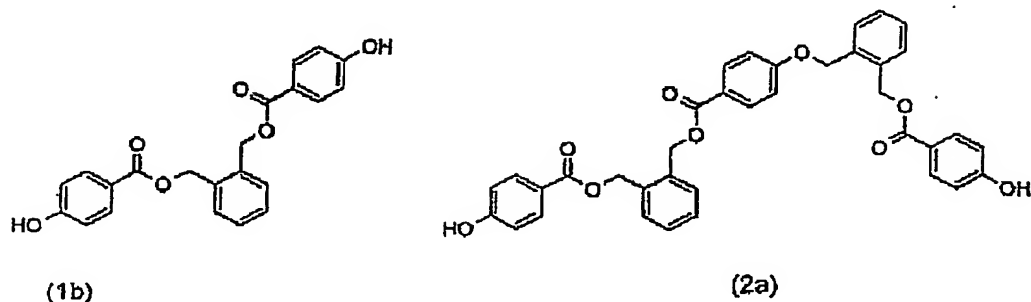
C_5 - C_{10} cycloalkyl stands for e.g. cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, cyclononyl, cyclodecyl, preferably cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl.

25 A further embodiment of this invention relates to compounds of formula (2) as well as their use as colour developers.

A particularly preferred compound (1) or (1a) is represented by formula (1b)



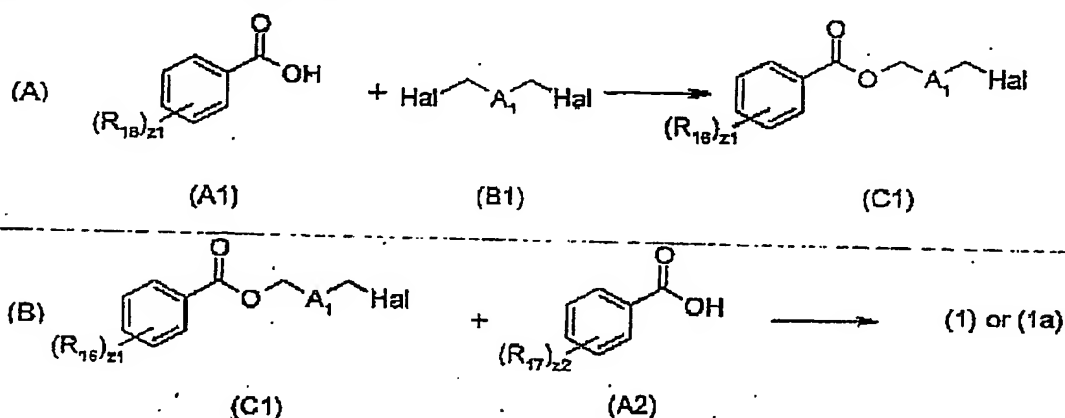
A particularly preferred mixture is a mixture of the following two compounds (1b) and (2a)



wherein the weight ratio of (1b) and (2a) is chosen in the range of 99.9:0.1 to 0.1:99.9, preferably from 95:5 to 70:30.

5

The compounds of formula (1) resp. (1a) can be prepared e.g. via the following route, in particular, should R_{16} be different from R_{17} :



10

wherein R_{16} stands for a substituent as defined for R_7 , and A_1 for A or A', R_{17} stands for a substituent as defined for R_8 , z_1 for an integer as defined for s, and z_2 for an integer as defined for t, and wherein Hal stands for halogen, preferably for chloro or bromo. Ester derivatives of formula (1) or (1a) may also be synthesized from a suitable dihydroxy compound, for example 1,2-benzenedimethanol.

15

Usually the benzoic acid derivative (A1) is reacted with a dihalogen derivative (B1) in a solvent at a temperature in the range of from 0 to 100°C. The duration of the reaction usually depends on *inter alia* the temperature and the reactivity of the educts, but as a rule the duration is chosen in the range of from 5 minutes to 48 hours. As solvent the following solvents or their mixtures can be used: N,N-dimethylacetamide, N,N-dimethylformamide, dimethyl

20

sulfoxide, acetone, tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane, acetonitrile, sulfolane, hexamethylphosphoramide, polyethylene glycols ("PEG"), alcohols such as methanol, ethanol, n-, i-propanol, n-butanol, alkyl amines such as triethylamine, tripropylamine, triethanolamine or water. Of course, the above list is not completed, but exhibits the variety of different solvents, which
5 can be used. The reaction may also be carried out in the absence of a solvent.

In a preferred embodiment a base is added to the reaction mixture in order to neutralize the liberated acid. A number of different bases can be chosen including both organic and inorganic bases. Suitable bases are exemplified, but not limited to the following: alkali metal
10 carbonates, alkali metal bicarbonates such as potassium bicarbonate, alkaline earth metal oxides, amines, pyridines, alkali metal hydroxides such as sodium hydroxide or potassium hydroxide or the corresponding ammonium hydroxides such as such as tetrabutyl ammonium hydroxide..

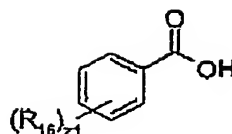
15 The molar ratio of (A1) to (B1) usually depends on whether R_{16} is the same as R_{17} or different. If R_{16} is the same as R_{17} then the molar ratio is chosen in the range of from 3:1 to 10:1. If R_{16} and R_{17} are different then the total amount of (A1) + (A2), based on the amount of (B1), preferably is chosen in the range of from 3:1 to 10:1, wherein the amounts of (A1) and (A2) preferably are the same.

20 Generally, the weight ratio of solvent to compound (A1) is chosen in the range of from 20:1 to 0:1, preferably from 20:1 to 0.1:1.

25 After reaction, the reaction products can be isolated by methods known in the art. These are exemplified by, but not limited to, distillation, crystallisation, precipitation, addition of a non-solvent, extraction, filtration, centrifugation etc.

Therefore, another embodiment of the present invention relates to a process for the manufacture of a colour developer of formula (1) by reacting a benzoic acid derivative with a dihalogen derivative, in which

30 (a) benzoic acid derivative of formula (A1)



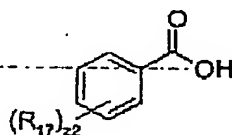
(A1)

is reacted with a dihalogen derivative of formula (B1)



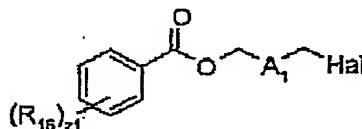
(B1)

- wherein R_{16} stands for -OH, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl, -COOR_{1a}, wherein R_{1a} stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, -C(O)R_{1a}, or -NR_{1a}R_{1b}, wherein R_{1b} , independently from R_{1a} , stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, z_1 stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5,
- A_1 stands for a unsubstituted or substituted divalent aromatic radical, or
- (b) a mixture of benzoic derivatives (A1) and (A2)



(A2)

- is reacted with a dihalogen derivative of formula (B1),
- wherein R_{17} , different from R_{16} , stands for -OH, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl, -COOR_{1a}, -C(O)R_{1a}, or -NR_{1a}R_{1b}, z_2 stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5,
- or
- (c) benzoic acid derivative of formula (A1) is reacted with dihalogen derivative (B1) to yield compound (C1)

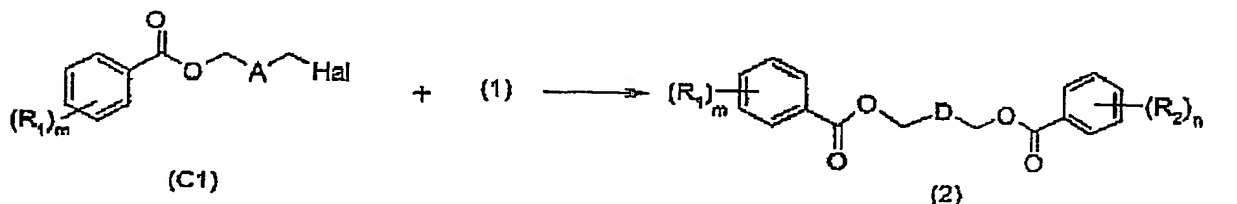


(C1)

and then compound (C1) is reacted with compound of formula (A2).

wherein the molar ratio of (A1) or ((A1)+(A2)) to (B1) is chosen in the range of from 3:1 to 10:1.

- 5 If desired, compound (C1) can be isolated and used for further reactions such as with compound (A1) or (A2), or – in order to obtain compounds (2) or (2a) - with compound (1) resp. (1a) in analogy to the following reaction scheme:



- 10 The reaction conditions can be chosen as described for the synthesis of compounds (1) or (1a) above.

- 15 Generally, a mixture of compounds (1) resp. (1a) and (2) resp. (2a) can be obtained either by simply mixing the two components or by adjusting the above reaction conditions for the manufacture of (1) in such a way that compounds (1) resp. (1a) and (2) resp. (2a) are produced during the same reaction. Preferably this can be done, if the amounts of (A1) and (B1) or ((A1)+(A2)) are chosen such that the molar ratios (A1) to (B1) or ((A1)+(A2) to (B1) are in the range of less than 3:1, preferably from 2:1 to 2.9:1. Of course, an optimisation of the usual process parameters such as temperature, molar ratio, solvent, duration etc. also could lead to the inventive mixture as can be seen in the examples.

- 25 Therefore, another embodiment of the present invention relates to a process for the manufacture of a mixture of colour developer (1) and compound of formula (2), in which (a) benzoic acid derivative of formula (A1) is reacted with a dihalogen derivative of formula (B1), or (b) a mixture of benzoic derivatives (A1) and (A2) is reacted with a dihalogen derivative of formula (B1), or

(c) benzoic acid derivative of formula (A1) is reacted with dihalogen derivative (B1) to yield compound (C1) and then compound (C1) is reacted with compound of formula (A2), wherein the molar ratio of (A1) or ((A1)+(A2)) to (B1) is chosen in the range of less than 3:1.

- 5 Another embodiment of the present invention is directed to a heat sensitive composition consisting of
- a) a colour forming compound, and
 - b) a colour developer of the formula (1).
- 10 A further embodiment of the present invention is directed to a heat sensitive composition consisting of
- a) a colour forming compound, and
 - b) a mixture of colour developer of formula (1a) and compound of formula (2).
- 15 A further embodiment of this invention relates to a mixture of a colour developer of formula (1) and a compound of formula (2), which is obtainable by the process described above.

A further embodiment of this invention relates to a process for the manufacture of compound (2), wherein compound (C1) is reacted with colour developer (1).

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The colour forming compounds are, for example, triphenylmethanes, lactones, benzoxazines, spiropyrans or preferably fluorans.

- 25 Preferred colour formers include but are not limited to; 3-diethylamino-6-methylfluoran, 3-dimethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(2,4-dimethylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-chlorofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-trifluoromethylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(2-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(2-fluoroanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-n-octylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-(4-n-octylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-(n-octylamino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-(dibenzylamino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(dibenzylamino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-chloro-7-methylfluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-t-butylfluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-carboxyethylfluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-chloro-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-methylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-methylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-
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- ethoxyethyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-methylfluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-chlorofluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-(3-trifluoromethylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-(2-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-(2-fluoroanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-benzo[a] fluoran, 3-diethylamino-benzo[c] fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-dibenzylamino-fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-
- 5 diethylamino-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(2,4-dimethylanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(2-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(2-fluoroanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-trifluoromethylanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-ethoxyethyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-
- 10 chloro-anilino-fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-methylanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-(2-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-(2-fluoroanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-(N-methyl-N-formylamino) fluoran, 3-dipentylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-dipentylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-2-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-dipentylamino-7-(3-trifluoromethylanilino) fluoran, 3-dipentylamino-6-chloro-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-dipentylamino-7-(4-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-pyr-
- 15 rolidino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-piperidino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-methyl-N-propylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-methyl-N-cyclohexylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-cyclohexylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-p-toluidino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-chloro-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-tetrahydrofurfurylamino)-6-methyl-7-
- 20 anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-isobutylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-butyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-isopropyl-N-3-pentylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-ethoxypropylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran, 3-cyclohexylamino-6-chlorofluoran, 2-methyl-6-p-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)aminoanilino-fluoran, 2-methoxy-6-p-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)aminoanilino-fluoran, 2-chloro-3-methyl-6-p-(p-phenylamino-
- 25 phenyl)aminoanilino-fluoran, 2-diethylamino-6-p-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)aminoanilino-fluoran, 2-phenyl-6-methyl-6-p-(p-phenylaminophenyl)aminoanilino-fluoran, 2-benzyl-6-p-(p-phenylaminophenyl)aminoanilino-fluoran, 3-methyl-6-p-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)aminoanilino-fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-p-(p-diethylaminophenyl)aminoanilino-fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-p-(p-dibutylaminophenyl)aminoanilino-fluoran, 2,4-dimethyl-6-[(4-dimethylamino)anilino] fluoran, 3-[(4-
- 30 dimethylaminophenyl)amino]-5,7-dimethylfluoran, 3,6,6'-tris(dimethylamino)spiro[fluorane-9,3'-phthalide], 3,6,6'-tris(diethylamino)spiro[fluorene-9,3'-phthalide], 3,3-bis(p-dimethylaminophenyl)-6-dimethylaminophthalide, 3,3-bis(p-dimethylaminophenyl)phthalide, 3,3-bis-[2-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)-2-(p-methoxyphenyl)ethenyl-4,5,6,7-tetrabromophthalide, 3,3-bis-[2-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)-2-(p-methoxyphenyl)ethenyl-4,5,6,7-tetrachlorophthalide,

3,3-bis[1,1-bis(4-pyrrolidinophenyl)ethylene-2-yl]-4,5,6,7-tetrabromophthalide, 3,3-bis-[1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-(4-pyridinophenyl)ethylene-2-yl]-4,5,6,7-tetrachlorophthalide, 3-(4-diethylamino-2-ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-ethyl-2-methylindole-3-yl)-4-azaphthalide, 3-(4-diethylamino-2-ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-octyl-2-methylindole-3-yl)-4-azaphthalide, 3-(4-cyclohexylethylamino-2-methoxyphenyl)-3-(1-ethyl-2-methylindole-3-yl)-4-azaphthalide, 3,3-bis(1-ethyl-2-methylindole-3-yl) phthalide, 3,3-bis(1-octyl-2-methylindole-3-yl) phthalide, mixture of 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine and 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine, 4,4'-[1-methylethylidene]bis(4,1-phenyleneoxy-4,2-quinazolinediyl)]bis[N,N-diethylbenzenamine], bis(N-methyldiphenylamine)-4-yl-(N-butylcarbazole)-3-yl-methane, 6-diethylamino-1,2-benzofluoran, 3-(diethylamino)-6,8-dimethylfluoran, 3-N-ethyl-N-p-methylphenylamino-7-methylfluoran and mixtures thereof.

All of the above colour forming compounds can be used singly or as a mixture with other colour forming compounds; or they may also be used together with further black colour forming compounds.

Highly preferred are 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-methylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(2,4-dimethylanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-dipentylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-methyl-N-propylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-methyl-N-cyclohexylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-chloro-7-anilinofluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-(2-chloroanilino)fluoran, 3-N-ethyl-p-toluidino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-tetrahydrofurfurylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-isobutylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-N-ethyl-N-ethoxypropylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 2,4-dimethyl-6-[(4-dimethylamino)anilino]fluoran, 3-(4-diethylamino-2-ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-octyl-2-methylindole-3-yl)-4-azaphthalide, 3,3-bis(p-dimethylaminophenyl)-6-dimethylaminophthalide and mixtures thereof.

It is also possible to use solid solutions comprising at least two colour forming compounds.

A monophasic (or single-phase or guest-host) solid solution possesses a crystal lattice which is identical with the crystal lattice of one of its components. One component is embedded as the 'guest' in the crystal lattice of the other component, which acts as the 'host'. The X-ray

diffraction pattern of such a monophasic solid solution is substantially identical to that of one of the components, called the 'host'. Within certain limits, different proportions of the components produce almost identical results.

- 5 In the literature, the definitions by the various authors, such as, G.H.Van't Hoff, A.I.Kitaigorodsky and A.Whitacker for solid solutions and mixed crystals are often contradictory, (cf. e.g. 'Analytical Chemistry of Synthetic Dyes', Chapter 10/page 269, Editor K.Venkataraman, J.Wiley, New York, 1977).

- 10 The term 'monophasic solid solution' or 'multiphasic solid solution' or mixed crystal', as defined herein, therefore, should be taken from the following definitions, which have been adapted to the current improved state of knowledge of such systems:
A monophasic (or single-phase or guest-host) solid solution possesses a crystal lattice, which is identical with the crystal lattice of one of its components. One component is embedded as the 'guest' in the crystal lattice of the other component, which acts as the 'host'. The X-ray diffraction pattern of such a monophasic solid solution is substantially identical to that of one of the components, called the 'host'. Within certain limits, different proportions of the components produce almost identical results.

- 20 A multiphasic solid solution possesses no precise, uniform crystal lattice. It differs from a physical mixture of its components in that the crystal lattice of at least one of its components is partially or completely altered. In comparison to a physical mixture of the components, which gives an X-ray diffraction diagram that is additive of the diagrams seen for the individual components. The signals in the X-ray diffraction diagram of a multiphasic solid solution are broadened, shifted or altered in intensity. In general, different proportions of the components produce different results.

- A mixed crystal (or solid compound type) solid solution possesses a precise composition and a uniform crystal lattice, which is different from the crystal lattices of all its components. If different proportions of the components lead, within certain limits, to the same result, then a solid solution is present in which the mixed crystal acts as a host.

For the avoidance of doubt it may also be pointed out that, inter alia, there may also be amorphous structures and mixed aggregates consisting of different particles of different

physical type, such as, for example, an aggregate of different components each in pure crystal modification. Such amorphous structures and mixed aggregates cannot be equated with either solid solutions or mixed crystals, and possess different fundamental properties.

- 5 As hereinbefore detailed, the monophase solid solutions comprise a plurality of colour compounds. Suitable colour forming materials, which may be included in the solid solutions are those given above.

Of particular interest are the following monophase solid solutions:

- 10 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-dibutylamino-7-dibenzylamino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-dibutylamino-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-diethylamino-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-diethylamino-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-N-2-pentyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-N-isopropyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-N-Cyclohexylmethyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-dipropylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-N-2-butyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-N-cyclohexyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-methylanilino) fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(2,4-dimethylanilino) fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-dipentylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-(N-methyl-N-propylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-chloro-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-dibutylamino-7-(2-chloroanilino)fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-N-ethyl-p-toluidino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-(N-ethyl-N-tetrahydrofurfurylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-(N-ethyl-N-isobutylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-N-ethyl-N-ethoxypropylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 2,4-dimethyl-6-[(4-dimethylamino)anilino]fluoran; 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-

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diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3-N-propyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-tolyl)amino-fluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 3,3-bis(1-octyl-2-methylindol-3-yl)phthalide; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and mixture of 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine and 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine; 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran and 4,4'-[1-methylethylidene]bis(4,1-phenyleneoxy-4,2-uinazolinediyl)]bis[N,N-diethylbenzenamine].

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In the above monophasic solid solutions the first compound is in a molar ratio of 75 to 99.9% by mole, the second compound is in a ratio of 25 to 0.1% by mole.

Examples of monophasic solid solutions comprising two components A and B in the stated ratios are: 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (99.9%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (0.1%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (99%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (1%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (95%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (5%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%) and 3-N-2-pentyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (95%) and 3-N-2-pentyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (5%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%) and 3-N-isopropyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (95%) and 3-N-isopropyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (5%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%) and 3-N-Cyclohexylmethyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (95%) and 3-N-Cyclohexylmethyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (5%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%) and 3-dipropylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (95%) and 3-dipropylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (5%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%) and 3-N-2-butyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (95%) and 3-N-2-butyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (5%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (85%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (15%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (80%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (20%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (95%), 3-N-isoamyl-

- N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (5%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (80%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (20%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%), 3-N-cyclohexyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%); 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%); 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (80%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (20%); 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (20%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (80%); 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%); 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%), 3-N-propyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%); 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (80%), 3-N-propyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (20%); 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (20%), 3-N-propyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (80%); 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%), 3-N-propyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%); 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (10%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-tolyl)amino-fluoran (90%); 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (20%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-tolyl)amino-fluoran (80%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%), 3,3-bis(1-octyl-2-methylindol-3-yl)phthalide (10%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (80%), 3,3-bis(1-octyl-2-methylindol-3-yl)phthalide (20%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%), mixture of 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine and 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine (10%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (80%), mixture of 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine and 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine (20%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (90%), 4,4'-[1-methylethylidene]bis(4,1-phenyleneoxy-4,2-quinazolinediyl)]bis[N,N-diethylbenzenamine] (10%); 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran (80%), 4,4'-[1-methylethylidene]bis(4,1-phenyleneoxy-4,2-quinazolinediyl)]bis[N,N-diethylbenzenamine] (20%).

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The monophasic solid solutions can be used singly or as a mixture with other colour forming compounds such as triphenylmethanes, lactones, fluorans, benzoxazines and spiropyrans; or they may also be used together with further black colour forming compounds. Examples of such other colour forming compounds are given hereinbefore.

The monophasic solid solutions can be prepared by a variety of methods. One such method is the recrystallisation method wherein a physical mixture of the desired components is dissolved, with or without heating, in a suitable solvent or solvent mixture. Suitable solvents include but are not limited to toluene, benzene, xylene, dichlorobenzene, chlorobenzene, 1,2-dichloroethane, methanol, ethanol, iso-propanol, n-butanol, acetonitrile, dimethylformamide or mixtures of these solvents with each other and with water. The monophasic solid solution is then isolated by crystallisation from the solvent or solvent mixture. This can be brought about by cooling, standing, addition of a further solvent to promote crystallisation or concentration by standard means such as distillation, steam distillation and vacuum distillation.

When the monophasic solid solution is isolated by concentration it may be advantageous to do so in the presence of a small amount of base, to improve the visual aspect of the isolated product.

Alternatively, monophasic solid solutions can be prepared from mixtures of the appropriate starting materials. The technique can be used to produce mixtures of two or more fluorans or phthalides. For example, mixtures of two fluorans are produced by replacing a single starting material with two analogous materials to the same total molar concentration in the reaction. In the case of fluorans, these starting materials are derivatives of amino phenols, phthalic anhydrides, keto acids and diphenylamines.

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Usually, the molar ratio of colour developer or colour developers to colour forming compound or compounds is chosen in the range of from 20:1 to 0.1:1, preferably from 5:1 to 0.5:1, more preferably from 4:1 to 1:1.

25 In addition to the inventive colour developers (1), (1a) and (2), it is possible to further add additional colour developers. Such developers are exemplified by but not limited to: N-p-toluenesulfonyl-N'-3-(p-toluenesulfonyloxy)phenyl urea, 4,4'-isopropylidene bisphenol, 4,4'-sec-butylidene bisphenol, 4,4'-cyclohexylidene bisphenol, 2,2-bis-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-4-methylpentane, 2,2-dimethyl-3,3-di(4-hydroxyphenyl)butane, 2,2'-dihydroxydiphenyl, 1-phenyl-1,1-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)butane, 4-phenyl-2,2-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)butane, 1-phenyl-2,2-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)butane, 2,2-bis(4'-hydroxy-3'-methylphenyl)-4-methylpentane, 2,2-bis(4'-hydroxy-3'-tert-butylphenyl)-4-methylpentane, 4,4'-sec-butylidene-bis (2-methylphenol), 4,4'-isopropylidene-bis (2-tert-butylphenol), 2,2-bis(4'-hydroxy-3'-isopropylphenyl)-4-methylpentane, allyl-4,4-bis (4'-hydroxyphenyl) pentanoate, propargyl-4,4-bis(4'-hydroxy-

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phenyl) pentanoate, n-propyl-4,4-bis (4'-hydroxyphenyl) pentanoate, 2,4-bis (phenylsulfonyl) phenol, 2-(4-methylsulfonyl)-4-(phenylsulfonyl) phenol, 2-(phenylsulfonyl)-4-(4-methylsulfonyl) phenol, 2,4-bis (4-methylphenylsulfonyl) phenol, pentamethylene-bis(4-hydroxybenzoate), 2,2-dimethyl-3,3-di(4-hydroxyphenyl)pentane, 2,2-di(4-hydroxyphenyl)hexane, 4,4'-di-
5 hydroxydiphenyl thioether, 1,7-di(4-hydroxyphenylthio)-3,5-dioxaheptane, 2,2'-bis(4-hydroxyphenylthio)diethyl ether, 4,4'-dihydroxy-3,3'-dimethyldiphenyl thioether, benzyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, propyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, isopropyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, butyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, isobutyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, 4,4'-dihydroxydiphenyl sulfone, 2,4'-
10 dihydroxydiphenyl sulfone, 4-hydroxy-4'-methyldiphenyl sulfone, 4-hydroxy-4'-isopropoxydiphenyl sulfone, 4-hydroxy-4'-butoxydiphenyl sulfone, 4,4'-dihydroxy-3,3'-diallyldiphenyl sulfone, 3,4-dihydroxy-4'-methyldiphenyl sulfone, 4,4'-dihydroxy-3,3',5,5'-tetrabromodiphenyl sulfone, 4,4'-bis (p-toluenesulphonylaminocarbonylamino) diphenylmethane, N-p-toluenesulphonyl-N'-phenyl urea, dimethyl 4-hydroxyphthalate, dicyclohexyl 4-hydroxyphthalate, diphenyl 4-hydroxyphthalate, 4-[2-(4-methoxyphenoxy)ethoxy] salicylate, 3,5-di-tert-butyl-
15 salicylic acid, 3-benzyl salicylic acid, 3-(α -methylbenzyl) salicylic acid, 3-phenyl-5-(α,α -dimethylbenzyl) salicylic acid, 3,5-di- α -methylbenzyl salicylic acid; metal salts of salicylic acid, 2-benzylsulfonylbenzoic acid, 3-cyclohexyl-4-hydroxybenzoic acid, zinc benzoate, zinc 4-nitrobenzoate, 4-(4'-phenoxybutoxy)phthalic acid, 4-(2'-phenoxyethoxy)phthalic acid, 4-(3'-phenylpropyloxy)phthalic acid, mono (2-hydroxyethyl)-5-nitro-isophthalic acid, 5-benzyloxy-
20 carbonyl isophthalic acid, 5-(1'-phenylethanesulfonyl) isophthalic acid, bis(1,2-dihydro-1,5-dimethyl-2-phenyl-3H-pyrazol-3-one-O)bis(thiocyanato-N) zinc, polymer of 4,4'-sulfonylbisphenol with 1,1'-oxybis[2-chloroethane] (CAS [191680-83-8]), polymer of 2,2-bis(hydroxymethyl)1,3-propanediol with 4-hydroxybenzoate (CAS [92881-24-8]), polymeric esters of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (formed by the reaction of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid with poly-
25 hydroxy compounds), N-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-4'-methylbenzenesulfonamide, zinc 4-(octyloxy-carbonylamino)salicylate, urea urethane developers as described in EP-A 1,116,713, or polyhydroxystyrene as described e.g. in US 2003/50191, and mixtures thereof.

Preferably, the inventive heat sensitive composition is used for the manufacture of a heat
30 sensitive recording material.

Hence, another embodiment of this invention relates to a heat sensitive recording material, which comprises at least one colour developer of formula (1) resp. (1a), or the inventive

- 20 -

composition, i.e. a mixture of colour developer of formula (1) or (1a) and compound (2) resp. (2a).

5 In another preferred embodiment, the heat sensitive recording material further comprises at least one sensitiser. In still another preferred embodiment, the heat sensitive recording material further comprises at least one stabiliser, and/or further additives as described below.

10 The heat sensitive recording material can be prepared according to conventional methods. For example, at least one colour forming compound, at least one colour developer and, if desired, at least one sensitiser are pulverised separately in water or a suitable dispersing medium, such as aqueous polyvinyl alcohol by means of e.g. a ball mill, an attritor, a sand mill, a bead mill or like pulverizer to form an aqueous or other dispersion with an average particle diameter preferably in the range of 0.2 to 2.0 μm .

15 The fine particle dispersions thus obtained are usually combined and then mixed with conventional amounts of binder, pigment, and, if desired, a stabiliser and/or one or more auxiliaries, and the resulting mixture preferably is stirred to obtain a heat sensitive coating composition. This compositions is usually then applied to a support and the resulting coating is dried.

20

The inventive system can be employed for other end use applications using colour-forming materials, for example, a temperature indicating material.

25 The support can be a variety of suitable supports used in this field, and examples thereof include paper, wood-free paper made from non-chlorine bleached pulp, base paper containing waste paper, plastic films, and synthetic paper.

30 In addition, the heat sensitive recording material of the invention can contain a sensitiser. Generally, the molar ratio of sensitizer to colour former is chosen in the range of from 0.5:1 to 10:1, preferably 1:1 to 4:1.

Representative examples of sensitiser are stearamide, methylol stearamide, p-benzylbiphenyl, m-terphenyl, 2-benzoyloxynaphthalene, 4-methoxybiphenyl, dibenzyl oxalate, di(4-methylbenzyl) oxalate, di(4-chlorobenzyl) oxalate, dimethyl phthalate, dibenzyl terephthalate,

dibenzyl isophthalate, 1,2-diphenoxyethane, 1,2-bis(4-methylphenoxy) ethane, 1,2-bis(3-methylphenoxy) ethane, 4,4'-dimethylbiphenyl, phenyl-1-hydroxy-2-naphthoate, 4-methylphenyl biphenyl ether, 1,2-bis(3,4-dimethylphenyl) ethane, 2,3,5,6-4'-methyldiphenyl methane, 1,4-diethoxynaphthalene, 1,4-diacetoxybenzene, 1,4-dipropionoxybenzene, o-xylene-bis(phenyl ether), 4-(m-methylphenoxyethyl) biphenyl, p-hydroxyacetanilide, p-hydroxybutyranyl, p-hydroxynonanilide, p-hydroxylauranilide, p-hydroxyoctadecanilide, N-phenyl-phenylsulphonamide, acetyl biphenyl compounds (e.g. as described in JP2003 063149A2) and 2-phenoxyethyl-N-phenylcarbamate.

10 The above sensitizers are known or can be prepared according to known methods.

In addition, the heat sensitive recording material of the invention can contain a stabiliser. As a rule, the molar ratio of stabilizer to colour former is chosen in the range of from 0.05:1 to 10:1, preferably from 0.1 to 2.

15

Representative stabilisers for use in heat sensitive recording materials include 2,2'-methylene-bis(4-methyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 2,2'-methylene-bis(4-ethyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 4,4'-butylidene-bis(3-methyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 4,4'-thio-bis(2-tert-butyl-5-methylphenol), 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-tert-butylphenyl) butane, 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-cyclohexylphenyl) butane, bis (3-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-6-methylphenyl) sulfone, bis (3,5-dibromo-4-hydroxyphenyl) sulfone, 4,4'-sulfinyl bis (2-tert-butyl-5-methylphenol), 2,2'-methylene bis (4,6-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphate and alkali metal, ammonium and polyvalent metal salts thereof, 4-benzyloxy-4'-(2-methylglycidyl)oxy diphenyl sulfone, 4,4'-diglycidyl oxydiphenyl sulfone, 1,4-diglycidyl oxybenzene, 4-[α -(hydroxymethyl)benzyloxy]-4-hydroxydiphenyl sulfone, metal salts of p-nitrobenzoic acid, metal salts of phthalic acid mono benzyl ester, metal salts of cinnamic acid, 2,2',3,3'-tetrahydro-3,3',3',3'-tetramethyl-1,1'-spirobi-(1H-indene)-6,6'-diol and mixtures thereof.

Preferred stabilisers are 4,4'-butylidene-bis(3-methyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 4,4'-thio-bis(2-tert-butyl-5-methylphenol), 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-tert-butylphenyl) butane, 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-cyclohexylphenyl) butane, 4-benzyloxy-4'-(2-methylglycidyl)oxy diphenyl sulfone and mixtures thereof.

Representative binders for use in the heat sensitive recording layer include polyvinyl alcohol (fully or partially hydrolysed), carboxy-modified polyvinyl alcohol, acetoacetyl-modified polyvinyl alcohol, diacetone-modified polyvinyl alcohol, silicon-modified polyvinyl alcohol, oxidised starch, gelatine, caesin, derivatives of cellulose such as hydroxyethyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose and acetyl cellulose, starch-vinyl acetate graft copolymers, styrene-maleic anhydride copolymers, methyl vinyl ether-maleic anhydride copolymers, isopropylene-maleic anhydride copolymers and like water-soluble resins, styrene-butadiene latex, acrylic latex, urethane latex and like water-dispersible resins and mixtures thereof. The amount of the binder to be used is about 5 to 40 weight-%, preferably about 7 to 30% based on the heat sensitive recording layer.

Representative pigments for use in the heat sensitive recording layer include ground calcium carbonate, precipitated calcium carbonate, kaolin, calcined kaolin, aluminium hydroxide, talc, titanium dioxide, zinc oxide, amorphous silica, barium sulfate, polystyrene resin, urea-formaldehyde resin, hollow plastic pigment and mixtures thereof. As a rule the amount of pigment to be used is chosen in the range of from 5 to 75 weight-%, preferably from 10 to 60 weight-%, based on the heat sensitive recording layer.

Representative lubricants for use in the heat sensitive recording layer include stearamide, methylene bis stearamide, polyethylene wax, camauba wax, paraffin wax, zinc stearate, calcium stearate and mixtures thereof.

Examples of various auxiliaries that can be added to the heat sensitive layer coating composition, if so desired, include surfactants such as sodium dioctylsulfosuccinate, sodium dodecylbenzenesulfonate, sodium lauryl sulfate and fatty acid metal salts; insolubilisers such as glyoxal, urea-formaldehyde resins, melamine-formaldehyde resins, polyamide resins, polyamideamine-epichlorohydrin resins, adipic acid dihydrazide, boric acid, borax, ammonium zirconium carbonate and potassium zirconium carbonate; antifoaming agents, fluorescent whitening agents, fluorescent dyes and/or pigments, tinting dyes and UV absorbers.

Usually the heat sensitive recording layer coating composition is applied to the support in an amount in the range of from 1 to 10 g/m², preferably from 2 to 7 g/m² on a dry weight basis. The heat sensitive recording layer coating composition may be applied to the support by a

known coating device such as a coating bar, a roll coater, an air knife coater, a blade coater, a gravure coater, a die coater or a curtain coater.

5 If desired, an undercoat layer can also be provided between the support and the heat sensitive recording layer in order to improve the thermal sensitivity and efficiency during recording. The undercoat layer is formed by coating the support with an undercoat layer coating composition comprising as main components organic hollow particles and/or an oil absorbing pigment and a binder and then drying the coating.

10 Representative examples of oil absorbing pigments include clay, calcined clay, amorphous silica, precipitated calcium carbonate and talc. The average pigment diameter may be in the range 0.01 to 5 μm , preferably from 0.02 to 3 μm .

15 Representative examples of organic hollow particles include particles having a shell made from an acrylic resin, styrene-based resin and vinylidene chloride-based resin and having a void ratio of about 50 to 99%. The outside diameter of the organic hollow particle may be in the range of 0.5 to 10 μm , preferably from 1 to 5 μm .

20 The organic hollow particles may be expandable hollow particles. A typical example of such expandable hollow particles are microcapsules having an average diameter of 0.1 to 5 μm comprising a vinylidene chloride resin shell and butane gas as fill material. When a support coated with an undercoat layer comprising such expandable hollow particles is subjected to heat treatment, the microcapsules may expand to an average particle diameter in the range of e.g. 1 to 30 μm .

25 When the oil absorbing pigment is used in combination with the organic hollow particles, the combined amount of the two components is preferably chosen in the range of from 40 to 90 weight-%, particularly from 50 to 80 weight-%, based on the undercoat layer.

30 Preferably, the binder used in the undercoat layer is selected from the binders to be used in the heat sensitive recording layer and particularly preferred examples are styrene-butadiene latex, a polyvinyl alcohol or starch-vinyl acetate copolymer. The amount of binder to be used is chosen e.g. in the range of from 5 to 30 weight-%, particularly 10 to 20 weight-%, based on the undercoat layer.

Generally, the undercoat recording layer coating composition is applied to the support in an amount in the range of from 2 to 20 g/m², preferably from 4 to 12 g/m² on a dry weight basis. If desired, a protective layer may be provided on the heat sensitive recording layer to enhance the resistance of the recorded image to water and chemicals, for example, oils, fats, alcohols, plasticisers and the like to improve the runability during recording. Usually, the protective layer is formed by coating the heat sensitive recording layer with a protective layer coating composition comprising as main components a binder having film-forming ability and optionally, a pigment and/or an insolubiliser and/or a lubricant and then drying the resulting coating film.

Representative examples of the binder to be used in the protective layer coating composition include e.g. polyvinyl alcohol (fully or partially hydrolysed), carboxy-modified polyvinyl alcohol, acetoacetyl-modified polyvinyl alcohol, diacetone-modified polyvinyl alcohol, silicon-modified polyvinyl alcohol, starches, gelatine, caesin, gum arabic, derivatives of cellulose such as hydroxyethyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose and acetyl cellulose, starch vinyl acetate graft copolymers, styrene-maleic anhydride copolymers, methyl vinyl ether-maleic anhydride copolymers, isopropylene-maleic anhydride copolymers and like water-soluble resins, styrene-butadiene latex, acrylic latex, urethane latex and like water-dispersible resins and mixtures thereof.

The pigment, insolubiliser, lubricant and, if required, other auxiliaries may be chosen from those above described in the heat sensitive recording layer coating composition.

The protective layer coating composition preferably is applied in an amount in the range of from 0.5 to 10 g/m², preferably from 1 to 5 g/m² on a dry weight basis and may be applied with a similar coating device to that used to coat the heat sensitive layer.

It is also possible to provide a protective layer, an adhesive layer and a magnetic layer on the rear side of the support.

In particular the invention provides exceptional resistance to plasticiser, oil and heat ageing whilst showing improved background whiteness.

The following non-limiting examples, illustrate the novel materials of the present invention.

Examples

Example A: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (6.9 g, 0.05 mol) and tetrabutyl ammonium hydroxide (33 ml, 0.05 mol, 40% b.w. aqueous solution) is stirred in methanol /water (1:1, 60 ml) for 3 hours at room temperature. After the solvent is evaporated, the resulting oil is treated with α,α -dibromo-m-xylene (6.6 g, 0.025 mol) in N,N-dimethylformamide (75 ml) at a temperature in the range of 20 to 25°C and the reaction mixture stirred at this temperature for 16 hours. After removal of solvent, a viscous oil is obtained, which is treated with water (100 ml) and extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 75 ml). The combined organic layers are washed with HCl (0.5 N, 75 ml), NaHCO₃ (5% b.w., 75 ml) and brine solution (75 ml). Removal of the solvent gives a crude solid that is triturated with toluene to give a white solid (4.84 g, 51%) of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid 1,3-phenylenebis(methylene) ester.

Example B: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (30.4 g, 0.22 mol), dichloro-o-xylene (15.4 g, 0.088 mol), potassium bicarbonate (24.2 g, 0.242 mol) and N,N-dimethylacetamide (27 g) are heated to 90°C and held at this temperature for 4 hours. After cooling to 50°C, water (100 g) is added and the solution is allowed to cool to 25°C. After precipitation, the solids are filtered, washed with water (8x30 ml) and dried. This gives a white solid (31 g), which is a mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid 1,2-phenylenebis(methylene) ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) = 76:14 by HPLC).

Example C: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (6.9 g, 0.05mol), dibromo-o-xylene (6.6 g, 0.025 mol), sodium carbonate (5.5 g) and N,N-dimethylformamide (100 ml) are stirred at 20°C and held at this temperature for 24 hours. The reaction mixture is then poured onto water (400 g) and is stirred for 1 hour. After precipitation, the solids are filtered, washed with water (8x30 ml) and dried. This gives a white solid (31 g), which is a mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid 1,2-phenylenebis(methylene) ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) = 80:16 by HPLC).

Example D: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (13.8 g, 0.1mol), dibromo-m-xylene (10.9 g, 0.041 mol), sodium carbonate (10.6 g) and N,N-dimethylformamide (100 ml) are stirred at 20°C and held at this temperature for 24 hours. The reaction mixture is then treated with water (100 g) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 150ml). The organic solvent was then removed under reduced pressure and the resulting oil treated with water (200ml). After precipi-

tation, the solids are filtered, washed with water (8x30 ml) and dried. This gives a white solid (13.5 g), which is a mixture of 4-hydroxy-benzoic acid 1,3-phenylenebis(methylene) ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) = 79:9 by HPLC).

- 5 Example E: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (9.13 g, 0.65 mol), dichloro-*o*-xylene (3.85 g, 0.022 mol), potassium bicarbonate (11.3 g) and N,N-dimethylacetamide (27 g) are heated to 90°C and held at this temperature for 2.5 hours. After cooling to 60°C, water (100 g) is added and the solution is allowed to cool to 25°C. After precipitation, the solids are filtered, washed with water (8x30 ml) and dried. This gives a white solid (7.4 g), which is a mixture of
- 10 4-hydroxy-benzoic acid 1,2-phenylenebis(methylene) ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) = 82:15 by HPLC).

- Example F: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (69.0 g, 0.5 mol), dibromo-*o*-xylene (66.0 g, 0.25 mol), sodium carbonate (11.3 g) and N,N-dimethylformamide (1 l) are stirred at 20°C for
- 15 19 hours. The reaction mass was then poured onto 20% aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution (1.5 l) and the solid formed (97.6g) was filtered. The solid was then extracted into acetonitrile (1 l), filtered and then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The oil obtained was treated with water (400 ml) and the precipitate was filtered, washed with water (3 x 50 ml) and dried. This gives a white solid (37.5 g), which is a mixture of 4-hydroxy-benzoic
- 20 acid 1,2-phenylenebis(methylene) ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) = 72:14 by HPLC).

- Example G: The N,N-dimethylformamide/20% aqueous sodium bicarbonate liquors from Example F above were extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 500ml). The combined organic ex-
- 25 tracts were washed with water (2 x 150 ml) and then evaporated under reduced pressure. This gave a white solid (32.5 g) which was purified using column chromatography to give 4-hydroxy-benzoic acid 1,2-phenylenebis(methylene) ester as a white solid (99% purity).

- Example H: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (45.7 g, 0.33 mol), dichloro-*o*-xylene (19.25 g, 0.11 mol), potassium bicarbonate (56.5 g, 0.56 mol) and N,N-dimethylacetamide (135 g) are heated to 90°C and held at this temperature for 2 hours. After cooling to 50°C, water (550 g) is added and the solution is allowed to cool to 25°C. After precipitation, the solids are filtered, washed with water (2x75 ml) and dried. This gives a white solid (40.3 g), which is a

mixture of 4-hydroxy-benzoic acid 1,2-phenylenebis(methylene) ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) = 88:12 by HPLC).

5 Example I: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (60.8 g, 0.440 mol) and N,N-dimethyl-
acetamide (54 g) are heated to 50-55°C and treated with potassium bicarbonate (48.4 g,
0.484 mol). Dichloro-o-xylene (30.8 g, 0.176 mol) is then added and the reaction mixture
heated to 90°C and held at this temperature for 4.5 hours. After cooling to 60°C, methanol
(40 g) is added, followed by water (200 g) and the solution is allowed to cool to 25°C. After
precipitation, the solids are filtered, washed with water (2x75 ml) and dried. This gives a
10 white solid (62.0 g), which is a mixture of 4-hydroxy-benzoic acid 1,2-phenylenebis-
(methylene)ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) =
79:15 by HPLC).

15 Example J: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (9.13 g, 0.022 mol) and N,N-dimethyl-
acetamide (100 ml) at 25°C is treated with potassium bicarbonate (11.3 g, 0.112 mol). Di-
bromo-o-xylene (30.8 g, 0.176 mol) is added and the reaction mixture is then held at 25°C
for 20 hours. The reaction mass is then poured onto water (400 ml) and the solids are fil-
tered, washed with water (3x50 ml) and dried. This gives 4-hydroxy-benzoic acid 1,2-
phenylenebis-(methylene)ester as a white solid (8.6 g, 98% purity, mp 210 to 213°C).

20

Example K: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (162.0 g, 1.100 mol) and N,N-dimethyl-
acetamide (136 g) are heated to 50 to 55°C and treated with potassium bicarbonate (121.0
g, 1.210 mol). Dichloro-o-xylene (77.0 g, 0.44 mol) is then added and the reaction mixture
heated to 90°C and held at this temperature for 4.5 hours. After cooling to 60°C, methanol
25 (100 g) is added, followed by water (500 g) and the solution is allowed to cool to 25°C. After
precipitation, the solids are filtered, washed with water (3x250 ml) and dried. This gives a
white solid (156.8 g), which is a mixture of 4-hydroxy-benzoic acid 1,2-phenylenebis-
(methylene)ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) =
80:13 by HPLC).

30

Example L: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (30.4 g, 0.220 mol) and dimethylsulfoxide
(27 g) are heated to 50 to 55°C and treated with potassium bicarbonate (24.2 g, 0.242 mol).
Dichloro-o-xylene (15.4 g, 0.088 mol) is then added and the reaction mixture heated to 80°C
and held at this temperature for 2 hours. After cooling to 60°C, methanol (20 g) is added, fol-

lowed by water (100 g) at 30°C. After precipitation, the solids are filtered, washed with water (4x50 ml) and dried. This gives a white solid (30.7 g), which is a mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid 1,2-phenylenebis-(methylene)ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) = 74.8:12.1 by HPLC).

5

Example M: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (17.26 g, 0.125 mol), dichloro-o-xylene (8.75 g, 0.05 mol) and triethanolamine (18.64 g, 0.125 mol) are heated to 90°C and held at this temperature for 1.5 hours. After cooling to 60°C, methanol (15 ml) is added, followed by water (100 g) and the solution is allowed to cool to 25°C. After precipitation, the solids are filtered, washed with water (3x50 ml) and dried. This gives a white solid (15.2 g), which is a mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid 1,2-phenylenebis-(methylene)ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) = 82:13 by HPLC).

10

Example N: A mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (30.4 g, 0.220 mol) and PEG-200 (30 g) are heated to 50 to 55°C and treated with potassium bicarbonate (24.2 g, 0.242 mol). Dichloro-o-xylene (15.4 g, 0.088 mol) is then added and the reaction mixture heated to 90°C and held at this temperature for 2 hours. After cooling to 60°C, methanol (10 g) is added, followed by water (100 g) at 30°C. After precipitation, the solids are filtered, washed with water (4x50 ml) and dried. This gives a white solid (29.6 g), which is a mixture of 4-hydroxybenzoic acid 1,2-phenylenebis-(methylene)ester and the corresponding compound (2) (ratio compound of type (1) to (2) = 64:20 by HPLC).

20

Application Examples 1-10

25 The following examples illustrate the invention in further detail but are not limitative of the scope of the invention. In the examples, unless otherwise stated, parts and % are parts by weight and % by weight, respectively.

Example 1:

30 Preparation of Dispersion A-1

3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran	6 parts
10% aqueous solution of polyvinyl alcohol	30 parts
water	4 parts

The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

Preparation of Dispersion B-1

colour developer of Example C	12 parts
10% aqueous solution of polyvinyl alcohol (PVA-203 manufactured by Kuraray Co. Ltd)	12 parts
45% aqueous solution of sodium naphthalene sulphonate polymer with formaldehyde	0.6 parts
water	35.4 parts

The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

Preparation of Dispersion C-1

2-naphthyl benzyl ether	12 parts
10% aqueous solution of polyvinyl alcohol (PVA-203 manufactured by Kuraray Co. Ltd)	12 parts
water	36 parts

The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

Preparation of Dispersion D-1

precipitated calcium carbonate (Socal® P3 manufactured by Solvay Chemicals)	55.5 parts
sodium polyacrylate dispersant	0.5 parts
water	36.5 parts

The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

40 parts of Dispersion A-1, 60 parts of Dispersion B-1, 60 parts of Dispersion C-1, 92.5 parts of Dispersion D-1, 29.5 parts of a 17% zinc stearate dispersion (Hidorin F 115, Chukyo Europe), 18 parts of 20% aqueous polyvinyl alcohol solution and 0.5 parts of Ciba® Tinopal® ABP-X fluorescent whitening agent are mixed with stirring.

The coating composition thus obtained is applied to a base paper (having a pre-coating comprising organic hollow spheres having an average particle diameter of 1.0 μm ; shell material: styrene/acrylic copolymer; weighing 50 g/m^2 in an amount of 6 g/m^2 (on a dry basis), followed by drying and calendering to 400 Bekk seconds smoothness to give a heat sensitive recording paper.

Example 2: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 1 with the exception that 60 parts of Dispersion C-1 are replaced with 60 parts of a 20% dispersion of stearamide (Hymicron G-270, Chukyo Europe) and 18 parts of aqueous polyvinyl alcohol solution are replaced with 24 parts of aqueous polyvinyl alcohol solution.

Example 3: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 1 with the exception that in the preparation of Dispersion B-1, 12 parts of colour developer of Example C are replaced with 12 parts of colour developer of Example D.

Example 4: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 3 with the exception that 60 parts of Dispersion C-1 are replaced with 60 parts of a 20% dispersion of stearamide (Hymicron G-270, Chukyo Europe) and 18 parts of aqueous polyvinyl alcohol solution are replaced with 24 parts of aqueous polyvinyl alcohol solution.

Example 5: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 1 with the exception that in the preparation of Dispersion A-1, 6 parts of 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran are replaced with 6 parts of 3-(N-ethyl, N-isopentylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran.

Example 6: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 5 with the exception that in the preparation of Dispersion B-1, 12 parts of colour developer of Example C are replaced with 12 parts of colour developer of Example D.

Example 7: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 1 with the exception that in the preparation of Dispersion A-1, 6 parts of 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran are replaced with 6 parts of 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran.

Example 8: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 7 with the exception that in the preparation of Dispersion B-1, 12 parts of colour developer of Example C are replaced with 12 parts of colour developer of Example D.

- 5 Example 9: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 2 with the exception that in the preparation of Dispersion B-1, 12 parts of colour developer of Example D are replaced with 12 parts of colour developer of Example E.

- 10 Example 10: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 1 with the exception that in the preparation of Dispersion A-1, 6 parts of 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran are replaced with 6 parts of 3-(N-ethyl-N-p-tolylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran; in the preparation of Dispersion B-1, 12 parts of colour developer of Example C are replaced with 12 parts of colour developer of Example H and in the preparation of Dispersion C-1, 12 parts of 2-naphthyl benzyl ether are replaced with 12 parts of 1,2-di(3-methylphenoxy)ethane.

- 15 Examples 11-15

Preparation of Dispersion A-2

3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilino-fluoran	10 parts
10% aqueous solution of polyvinyl alcohol (PVA-203 manufactured by Kuraray Co. Ltd)	15 parts
water	15 parts

The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

Preparation of Dispersion B-2

colour developer of Example H	20 parts
10% aqueous solution of polyvinyl alcohol (PVA-203 manufactured by Kuraray Co. Ltd)	30 parts
45% aqueous solution of sodium naphthalene sulphonate polymer with formaldehyde	1 part
water	29 parts

The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

Preparation of Dispersion C-2

1,2-di(3-methylphenoxy)ethane	20 parts
10% aqueous solution of polyvinyl alcohol (PVA-203 manufactured by Kuraray Co. Ltd)	30 parts
Water	30 parts

5 The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

Preparation of Dispersion D-2

precipitated calcium carbonate (Socal® P3 manufactured by Solvay Chemicals)	30 parts
sodium polyacrylate dispersant	0.1 parts
water	69.9 parts

The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

Preparation of Dispersion D-3

aluminium trihydroxide (Martifin® OL-107 manufactured by Martinswerk GmbH)	30 parts
sodium polyacrylate dispersant	0.1 parts
water	69.9 parts

10 The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

Preparation of Dispersion D-4

amorphous silica (Thermosil manufactured by Süd Chemie AG)	30 parts
sodium polyacrylate dispersant	0.13 parts
Water	69.87 parts

The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

Preparation of Dispersion D-5

china clay (China Clay SPS manufactured by ECC International)	30 parts
sodium polyacrylate dispersant	0.1 parts
water	69.9 parts

The mixture of the above components is pulverised in a bead mill to a mean particle size of 1.0 μm .

- 5 Example 11: 40 parts of Dispersion A-1, 80 parts of Dispersion B-1, 80 parts of Dispersion C-1, 100 parts of Dispersion D-2, 38.25 parts of a 17% zinc stearate dispersion (Hidorin F 115, Chukyo Europe), 27.5 parts of 20% aqueous polyvinyl alcohol solution and 0.5 parts of Ciba® Tinopal® ABP-X fluorescent whitening agent are mixed with stirring.

- 10 The coating composition thus obtained is applied to a base paper (having a pre-coating comprising Ansilex® 93 clay (Engelhard Corporation) weighing 50 g/m² in an amount of 5 g/m² (on a dry basis), followed by drying and calendering to 400 Bekk seconds smoothness to give a heat sensitive recording paper.

- 15 Example 12: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 11 with the exception that 100 parts of Dispersion D-2 are replaced with 100 parts of Dispersion D-3.

Example 13: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 11 with the exception that 100 parts of Dispersion D-2 are replaced with 100 parts of Dispersion D-4.

- 20 Example 14: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 11 with the exception that 100 parts of Dispersion D-2 are replaced with 100 parts of Dispersion D-5.

- 25 Example 15: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 11 with the exception that 100 parts of Dispersion D-2 are replaced with 48.8 parts of a 61.5% aqueous dispersion of talc (Finntalc C10 XR manufactured by Mondo Minerals Oy) and 51.2 parts of water.

Example 16: A coating composition is prepared as in Example 2 with the exception that in the preparation of Dispersion B-1, 12 parts of color developer of Example C are replaced with 12 parts of colour developer of Example J.

- Example 17:** A coating composition is prepared as in Example 11 with the exception that in the preparation of Dispersion B-2, 20 parts of colour developer of Example H are replaced with 20 parts of colour developer of Example K and in the preparation of dispersion C-2, 20 parts of 1,2-di(3-methylphenoxy)ethane are replaced with 20 parts of 2-naphthyl benzyl ether.

Evaluation of Heat Sensitive Recording Materials

The heat sensitive recording materials prepared according to the invention are evaluated as described below and the results of the evaluations are summarised in Table 1.

10 Image Optical Density

Using a Thermal Tester (Atlantek Model 200 manufactured by Atlantek Inc.), each heat sensitive recording material is printed at an applied energy of 0.50 mJ/dot and the density of the recorded image thus obtained is measured with a Macbeth 1200 Series densitometer.

15 Background

The optical density of the unrecorded portion of the heat sensitive material is measured with a Macbeth 1200 Series densitometer.

Heat Resistance

- 20 After printing, the heat sensitive recording material is stored for 24 hours in an oven maintained at 60°C. The optical densities of the recorded and unrecorded portions are then measured with a Macbeth densitometer.

Heat / Humidity Resistance

- 25 After printing, the heat sensitive recording material is stored for 24 hours in an oven maintained at 40°C and 90% relative humidity. The optical densities of the recorded and unrecorded portions are then measured with a Macbeth densitometer.

Light Resistance

- 30 After printing, the heat sensitive recording material is stored for 18 hours in a xenon weatherometer (Atlas Suntester CPS+, 250 W/m²). The optical densities of the recorded and unrecorded portions are then measured with a Macbeth densitometer.

Oil Resistance

After printing, the heat sensitive recording material is gravure printed with cottonseed oil and then stored for 24 hours in an oven maintained at 40°C. The optical density of the recorded portion is then measured with a Macbeth densitometer.

5

Plasticiser Resistance

After printing, the heat sensitive recording material is contacted with a PVC strip under 100g/cm² pressure and then stored for 6 hours in an oven maintained at 50°C. The optical density of the recorded portion is then measured with a Macbeth densitometer.

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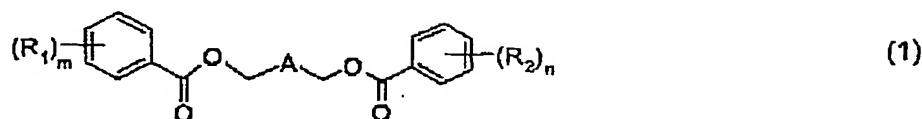
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Table 1: Evaluation of Heat Sensitive Recording Materials

Ex.	Optical density (re-recorded portion)	Optical density (unrecorded portion)	Heat resistance (recorded portion)	Heat resistance (unrecorded portion)	Heat / humidity resistance (re-recorded portion)
1	1.20	0.05	1.22	0.17	1.20
2	1.30	0.06	1.30	0.18	1.36
3	1.17	0.05	1.22	0.09	1.22
4	1.28	0.05	1.31	0.09	1.38
5	1.21	0.08	1.25	0.26	1.19
6	1.21	0.08	1.28	0.15	1.23
7	1.25	0.12	1.27	0.30	1.24
8	1.22	0.08	1.29	0.18	1.29
9	1.25	0.05	1.17	0.07	1.23
10	1.17	0.06	1.11	0.06	1.17
11	1.34	0.05	1.25	0.07	1.28
12	1.37	0.05	1.30	0.08	1.35
13	1.40	0.06	1.34	0.11	1.34
14	1.25	0.06	1.19	0.11	1.25
15	1.34	0.06	1.26	0.11	1.31
Comp16	1.17	0.02	1.03	0.02	1.09
17	1.30	0.02	1.29	0.08	1.30
Ex.	Heat / humidity resistance (unrecorded portion)	Light resistance (re-recorded portion)	Light resistance (unrecorded portion)	Oil resistance (recorded portion)	Plasticiser resistance (re-recorded portion)
1	0.15	1.06	0.10	1.15	1.21
2	0.16	1.18	0.11	1.21	1.25
3	0.07	1.08	0.10	1.15	1.21
4	0.06	1.17	0.11	1.22	1.26
5	0.22	1.05	0.13	1.15	1.24
6	0.11	1.09	0.14	1.18	1.22
7	0.33	1.16	0.18	1.21	1.25
8	0.15	1.13	0.18	1.20	1.21
9	0.06	1.17	0.07	1.10	1.21
10	0.08	1.05	0.08	0.36	0.95
11	0.05	1.22	0.08	1.26	1.26
12	0.05	1.28	0.07	1.27	1.29
13	0.06	1.27	0.07	1.16	1.31
14	0.07	1.18	0.08	1.26	1.19
15	0.07	1.26	0.08	1.27	1.27
Comp16	0.03	1.02	0.03	0.33	0.72
17	0.05	1.21	0.06	1.25	1.27

Claims

1. A colour developer of the formula (1)



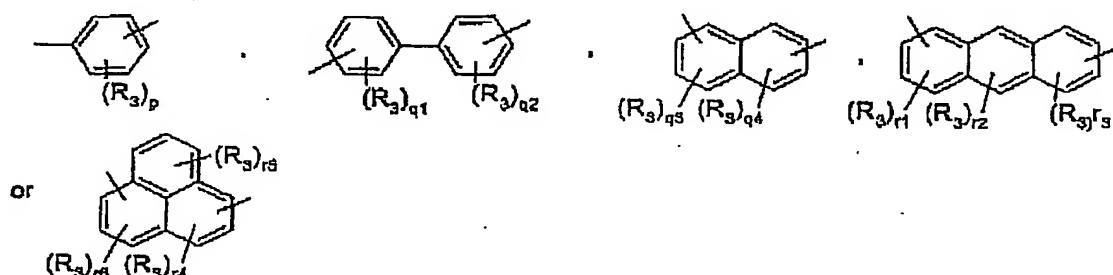
5 wherein

A stands for a unsubstituted or substituted divalent aromatic radical, and

R_1 and R_2 are independent of each other and stand for -OH, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl, -COOR_{1a}, wherein R_{1a} stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, -C(O)R_{1a}, or -NR_{1a}R_{1b}, wherein R_{1b} , independently from R_{1a} , stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, m stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, n stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5, with the proviso, that if A stands for para-phenylene, R_1 for hydroxy ($m \neq 0$), then R_2 is not hydroxy.

2. A colour developer according to claim 1, wherein the divalent aromatic radical is phenylene, biphenylene, naphthylene, or anthrylene, which can be substituted.

3. A colour developer according to claims 1 or 2, wherein the divalent aromatic radical is



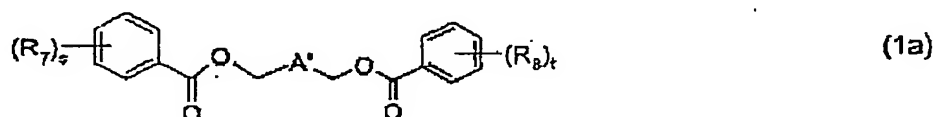
wherein R_3 stands for hydrogen, hydroxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{24} alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_5 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{24} alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenoxy or naphthoxy, halomethyl, -COOR₄, wherein R_4 stands for hydrogen or C_1 - C_8 alkyl, -CONR₅R₆,

wherein R_5 and R_6 , independently from each other stand for hydrogen or C_1 - C_8 alkyl, or $-NO_2$,
 p , q_1 and q_2 , independently from each other stand for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, q_3 , q_4 , r_1 , r_3 and r_5 , in-
independently from each other, stand for 0, 1, 2, or 3, r_2 , r_4 and r_6 , independently from each
other, stand for 0, 1 or 2.

5

4. A mixture consisting of

(a) a color developer (1a)



wherein

10 A' stands for a unsubstituted or substituted divalent aromatic radical,

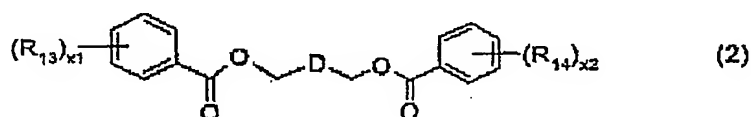
R_7 and R_8 are independent of each other and stand for $-OH$, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 -
 C_8 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or
naphthyl, $-COOR_{1a}$, wherein R_{1a} stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl,
benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, $-C(O)R_{1a}$, or $-NR_{1a}R_{1b}$, wherein R_{1b} , independ-
15 ently from R_{1a} , stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, benzyl or un-
substituted or substituted phenyl, ...

s stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, t stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5,

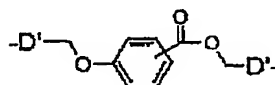
and

(b) a compound of formula (2)

20



wherein D stands for

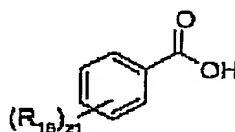


wherein D' stands for a unsubstituted or substituted divalent aromatic radical, R_{13} stands for
a substituent as defined for R_7 , R_{14} stands for a substituent as defined for R_8 , x_1 stands for

25 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, x_2 stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5,

and wherein the weight ratio of (1a) to (2) is chosen in the range from 99.9:0.1 to 0.1:99.9.

5. A compound of formula (2) as defined in claim 4.
6. A heat sensitive composition consisting of
 - a) a colour forming compound, and
 - b) a colour developer of the formula (1) as defined in claim 1.
7. A heat sensitive composition consisting of
 - a) a colour forming compound, and
 - b) a mixture of colour developer of the formula (1a) and compound of formula (2) as defined in claim 4.
8. A heat sensitive recording material comprising the colour developer (1) as defined in claim 1 or the mixture as defined in claim 4.
9. A heat sensitive recording material comprising the heat sensitive composition as defined in claim 6 or the heat sensitive composition as defined in claim 7.
10. A process for the manufacture of a colour developer of formula (1) by reacting a benzoic acid derivative with a dihalogen derivative, characterized in:
 - (a) reacting benzoic acid derivative of formula (A1)



(A1)

with a dihalogen derivative of formula (B1)



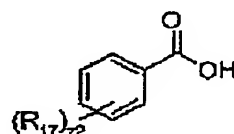
(B1)

- wherein R_{16} stands for -OH, unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_8 alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_8 alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl, -COOR_{1a}, wherein R_{1a} stands for hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_8 alkyl, benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, -C(O)R_{1a}, or -NR_{1a}R_{1b}, wherein R_{1b} , independently from R_{1a} , stands for hy-

drogen, unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₈alkyl, benzyl or unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, z1 stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5,

A₁ stands for a unsubstituted or substituted divalent aromatic radical, or

(b) reacting a mixture of benzoic derivatives (A1) and (A2)



(A2)

5

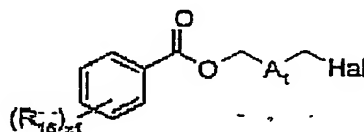
with a dihalogen derivative of formula (B1),

wherein R₁₇, different from R₁₆, stands for -OH, unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₈alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₈alkoxy, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl, -COOR_{1a}, -C(O)R_{1a}, or

10 -NR_{1a}R_{1b}, z2 stands for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5,

or

(c) reacting benzoic acid derivative of formula (A1) with dihalogen derivative (B1) to yield compound (C1)



(C1)

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and then reacting compound (C1) with compound of formula (A2),

wherein the molar ratio of (A1) or ((A1)+(A2)) to (B1) is chosen in the range of from 3:1 to 10:1.

20

11. A process for the manufacture of a mixture of colour developer (1) and compound of

formula (2) by reacting a benzoic acid derivative with a dihalogen derivative, characterized in

(a) reacting benzoic acid derivative of formula (A1) as defined in claim 10,

with a dihalogen derivative of formula (B1) as defined in claim 10, or

(b) reacting a mixture of benzoic derivatives (A1) and (A2) as defined in claim 10,

with a dihalogen derivative of formula (B1),

25

or

(c) reacting benzoic acid derivative of formula (A1) with dihalogen derivative (B1) to yield

compound (C1) as defined in claim 10 and then reacting compound (C1) with compound of

formula (A2), wherein the molar ratio of (A1) or ((A1)+(A2)) to (B1) is chosen in the range of less than 3:1.

5 12. Use of the compounds of formula (1) as defined in claim 1 for the manufacture of a heat sensitive recording material.

13. Use of the mixture of developer (1a) and compound (2) as defined in claim 4 for the manufacture of a heat sensitive recording material.

10 14. Use of compound of formula (2) as defined in claim 5 for the manufacture of a heat sensitive recording material.

15 15. A mixture of a colour developer of formula (1) as defined in claim 1 and a compound of formula (2) as defined in claim 4, obtainable by the process as defined in claim 11.

16. A process for the manufacture of compound (2) as defined in claim 4, characterized in reacting compound (C1) as defined in claim 10 with colour developer (1) as defined in claim 1.

Abstract

New colour developers, new mixture comprising it, its processes for preparation, heat sensitive recording compositions and materials comprising the novel developers and mixtures as well as their uses in heat sensitive recording materials.

PCT/EP2004/050607



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